

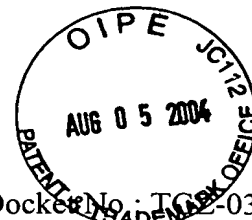


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EL 981581356 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: August 5, 2004

Signature:

Anthony A. Laurentano
(Anthony A. Laurentano)



Docket No.: TCG-030
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

John R. Gilbert *et al.*

Application No.: 10/816,514

Art Unit: 1753

Filed: March 31, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: IMPLEMENTATION OF MICROFLUIDIC
COMPONENTS, INCLUDING MOLECULAR
FRACTIONATION DEVICES, IN A
MICROFLUIDIC SYSTEM

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.